

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1       1. (Currently amended) A joint prosthesis system for implantation in a patient,  
2 comprising:

3             a body having a central canal extending therethrough; and  
4             a head coupled to the body;  
5             a shaft coupled to the body and extending through the central canal[[,]]; and  
6             a replacement shaft, wherein the shaft is interchangeable after implantation of  
7 the prosthesis by removing the shaft and replacing the shaft with a the replacement shaft  
8 without dislodging the body from the patient.

1       2. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the shaft is coupled to the  
2 body via insertion of the shaft through an end of the central canal nearest an articular surface  
3 of the prosthesis and the shaft is removed from the body by reversing the direction of  
4 insertion.

1       3. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 2, wherein the shaft is coupled to the  
2 body via a taper lock between the shaft and the body.

1       4. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 3, wherein the taper lock is a Morse  
2 taper lock.

1       5. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the joint prosthesis is  
2 configured to replace a hip joint.

1       6. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the joint prosthesis is  
2 configured to replace a shoulder joint.

1       7. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the replacement shaft is an  
2 intramedullary nail.

1        8. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the replacement shaft is  
2 longer than the shaft.

1        9. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, further comprising an insert  
2 coupled to the body and extending at least partially into the central canal.

1        10. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 9, wherein the insert is screwed into  
2 the central canal.

1        11. (Currently amended) A modular joint prosthesis having an articular surface  
2 for implantation in a patient, comprising:

3              a body stem coupled to the articular surface[[],]; and  
4              ~~the stem comprising a proximal portion nearest the articular surface and a~~  
5              ~~distal portion a shaft coupled to the body and configured to extend into a long bone of the~~  
6              patient;

7              wherein the shaft distal portion may be removed from the patient stem after  
8 implantation of the prosthesis without also removing the body proximal portion.

1        12. (Currently amended) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 11, further  
2 comprising a central canal in the body proximal portion in which the shaft distal portion is  
3 received.

1        13. (Currently amended) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 12, wherein the  
2 shaft distal portion is coupled to the body proximal portion via insertion of the shaft distal  
3 portion through an end of the central canal nearest the articular surface and the shaft distal  
4 portion is removed from the body proximal portion by reversing the direction of insertion.

1        14. (Currently amended) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 13, wherein the  
2 shaft distal portion is coupled to the body proximal portion via a taper lock between the shaft  
3 distal portion and the body proximal portion.

1        15. (Currently amended) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 12, further  
2 comprising an insert coupled to the body proximal portion and extending at least partially into  
3 the central canal.

1        16. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 15, wherein the insert is  
2 screwed into the central canal.

1        17. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 11, wherein the joint  
2 prosthesis is configured to replace a hip joint.

1        18. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 11, wherein the joint  
2 prosthesis is configured to replace a shoulder joint.

1        19. (Currently amended) A method of replacing a shaft of a joint prosthesis  
2 having a body, a head, and a shaft after the joint prosthesis has been implanted in a patient,  
3 comprising:

4              creating an access aperture in the patient for access to the joint prosthesis;  
5              removing the shaft from the patient without removing the body or the head;  
6              inserting a replacement shaft into the patient;  
7              coupling the replacement shaft to the body;  
8              locking the replacement shaft into place in the patient; and  
9              closing the access aperture.

1        20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the body has an aperture  
2 configured to receive the shaft or the replacement shaft and wherein the coupling step  
3 includes inserting the replacement shaft into the aperture.

1        21. (Original) The method of claim 20, further comprising coupling an insert to  
2 the body, the insert extending at least partially into the aperture.

1        22. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the replacement shaft is an  
2 intramedullary nail.

1        23. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the replacement shaft is longer  
2 than the shaft.

1        24. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the shaft is removed with the aid  
2 of a shaft removal device.

1        25. (Currently amended) A modular joint prosthesis system, comprising:  
2              a body;  
3              an articular surface coupled to the body;  
4              a first shaft configured to be coupled to the body; and  
5              a second shaft configured to be coupled to the body, wherein the second shaft  
6 is used to replace the first shaft after implantation of the prosthesis into a patient without first  
7 removing the body from the patient.

1        26. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the first  
2 shaft is coupled to the body via insertion of the first shaft through an end of a central canal in  
3 the body nearest the articular surface and the shaft is removed from the body by reversing the  
4 direction of insertion.

1        27. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 26, wherein the  
2 second shaft is coupled to the body via insertion of the second shaft through the end of the  
3 central canal nearest the articular surface.

1        28. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the shaft  
2 is coupled to the body via a taper lock between the shaft and the body.

1        29. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 28, wherein the taper  
2 lock is a Morse taper lock.

1        30. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 26, further  
2 comprising an insert coupled to the body.

1        31. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 30, wherein the insert  
2 is screwed into the central canal.

1       32. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the joint  
2 prosthesis is configured to replace a hip joint.

1       33. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the joint  
2 prosthesis is configured to replace a shoulder joint.

1       34. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the  
2 second shaft is an intramedullary nail.

1       35. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the  
2 second shaft is longer than the first shaft.

1       36. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, further  
2 comprising a shaft removal device configured to be coupled to the first shaft.

1       37. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 36, wherein the first  
2 shaft includes a threaded recess and the shaft removal device includes a threaded portion  
3 configured to be screwed into the threaded recess to couple the shaft removal device to the  
4 first shaft.

1       38. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, further  
2 comprising a head coupled to the body, the head having the articular surface.

1       39. (New) The joint prosthesis of claim 38, further comprising a neck connected  
2 to the body, wherein the head is coupled to the body via the neck.

1       40. (New) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, further comprising a neck connected to  
2 the body, wherein the head is coupled to the body via the neck.